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Scenario by Wm. B. Courtney

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"MORAL FIBRE"

Author: of story  
William Harrison Goadby

Director:  
Webster Campbell

Six Reel Drama

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SYNOPSIS

Marion Wolcott lives with her big brother Jared in the village of Glendale. She idolizes her brother and they are supremely happy - although Marion is jealous of the attentions of the village girls toward Jared. Grace Elmore, wife of George Elmore, prominent author, of flirtatious type, is introduced to Jared, who believes her to be single. She lets him believe this - and indulges in what appears to her to be a light summer flirtation; Jared takes the matter seriously - and Marion suffers pangs of jealousy and loneliness. Jared, wholly in love with "Miss" Elmore, finds tragedy when the husband arrives, Jared commits suicide, and Marion, blaming Grace entirely, plans to devote her life to revenge. Years later, in the city, Marion has fitted herself for her plan of vengeance, becoming an artist in the employ of the publishers of Elmore's books. John Corliss, Grace's brother, meets Marion and a love develops, with Marion holding herself in check until she shall have accomplished her revenge. The opportunity arrives, and with a recommendation from the publishers, Marion is appointed to illustrate Elmore's book. Grace resents the intrusion of the girl, but the latter proves herself invaluable to the author. Marion arranges things so that Grace believe an intrigue is under way. Grace and Elmore quarrel over Marion and Elmore insists that she remain and finish her work with him. Meantime the love affair between Marion and John is reaching a climax and she has given him her promise to let him speak when he returns from a visit to a neighboring city. Marion remains over the week-end at the Elmore's, bringing about a tense relationship between husband and wife. John, arriving at Marion's boarding house, learns that she will be gone all night, and for the first time learns that she is at his own sister's house. He motors out with the intention of surprising Marion and becoming reconciled with the Elmore's. Marion retires, and the Elmore's quarrel bitterly in their room. John arrives as the butler is locking up for the night and the two go to the pantry for a bite to eat. George leaves his wife and goes downstairs to be alone with his thoughts. Marion sees and follows him down, making sure that Grace sees her. Marion has a scene with George, playing it directly for Grace's benefit, making it appear as though there is a liaison between Elmore and herself. Grace hears and sees and accuses her husband. Marion admits the guilt and Grace, grief-stricken turns to her brother, who had entered at the moment of Marion's admission and learned that his sweetheart is apparently unworthy. Marion sees her position and begs John to believe it is a lie. He turns from her. Grace rushes to her room - prepared to leave. Marion goes to her room and the two men confront one another. John angered that George should have taken advantage of the girl. Grace takes up a revolver, seeing a way out of her troubles. Marion enters to enjoy her triumph and tells Grace who she really is - the sister of the man whose death Grace caused.

Grace learns for the first time of the suicide - and this prompts her to take her own life. Appalled at the extent of the damage she has done, Marion wrests the gun from her in a struggle. Grace hears and comes upon the scene. Marion, already repentant of the role she has assumed, makes explanations and leaves, to go to her own room to pack up. Grace and George come to an understanding. Marion, broken, leaves. George understanding the whole thing, comes down to John, looking for Marion. When George learns that John has let her go, he tells John what a good girl Marion is and to go after her. He hustles John out of the house. John meets Marion as she is entering the old homestead and in this meeting, all barriers are swept down and they go on their way to everlasting happiness.

The end

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